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The success which has followed the methods, and they are certainly very rational methods, which have been employed by the director of public health, Doctor St. Cruz (who, by the way, has been in office not quite a year yet), has imbued the better class of the inhabitants of Rio de Janeiro with a confidence in and a willingness to aid, both personally and officially, the department of which he is the head.

This is a state of affairs which, I am credibly informed, has not been existent here for a number of years.

As a proof of the work that has been done in the last six months by the mosquito brigade, there has not been one case of yellow fever occurring here which can be stated to be a secondary case, i. e., distinctly traceable to any other previous case. This is, I believe, a fact. If it be so, it certainly speaks volumes to the credit of the health department.

A very important ruling under the new sanitary law is one which directs that hereafter all cases of malarial fevers shall be treated with the same precautions in regard to the spread of malarial fever by the agency of mosquitoes as are now used to prevent the spread of yellow fever.

This will undoubtedly prove most efficacious in regard to preventing the dissemination of malarial affections and incidentally will be a most interesting study for anyone interested in the prevention of disease.

The results, as they may occur, I shall take pleasure in acquainting your office with.

#### *Recrudescence of plague at Para.*

From the daily press reports there seems to be a slight recrudescence of the bubonic plague in Belem, Para. This city is better known outside of Brazil by its other name, Para, the capital of the State of the same name.

I have written the consul there for full particulars and will forward same to you when I receive them.

According to the reports, on January 28 there were 2 new cases, with 5 cases in the isolation hospital; on the following day there was 1 new case and another case was reported January 30.

#### *Report for week ended January 30, 1904.*

During the week ended January 30 I inspected and issued to one vessel bill of health, namely, the British steamship *Calderon*, bound for New York with a cargo of coffee only, and carrying no passengers of any class. This vessel had, previously to her arrival here from Santos, been disinfected at the Ilha Grande quarantine station.

During the week ended on the last day of January there were in all 293 deaths in this city. Of this number 1 was due to yellow fever, with 5 new cases, leaving at the end of the week 2 cases in the Hospital Sao Sebastiao. Five deaths were due to plague, with 8 new cases, the deaths occurring in four localities in the city, and in 1 case in the isolation hospital.

Nineteen deaths were caused by variola, and of this disease 29 new cases were reported during the week. At the end of the week there were 27 cases of plague in the Hospital Paulo Candido under treatment, and in the Hospital São Sebastião there were 52 cases of variola being treated.

There were no deaths from scarlet fever, measles, or whooping cough; there was 1 death from diphtheria, with 8 deaths from grippe, 3 from enteric fever, none from dysentery, 5 from beriberi, none from leprosy, 17 from malarial fevers, and 45 from pulmonary tuberculosis.

The highest range of the thermometer was 34.4° C. and the lowest 21.5° C., with an average for the week of 26.28° C. Total rainfall for the week was 27.58 mm.

#### CANADA.

##### *Inspection of immigrants at St. John, New Brunswick.*

Passed Assistant Surgeon Billings reports as follows: Week ended February 20, 1904: Number of immigrants inspected, 165; number passed, 155; number detained, 10.

#### CHINA.

##### *Report from Hongkong—Smallpox.*

Passed Assistant Surgeon McMullen reports, January 20, as follows: During the week ended January 16, 1904, 8 vessels, with 876 crew and 226 passengers (77 cabin and 149 steerage), were inspected and granted bills of health; 326 crew and 16 steerage passengers were bathed and their baggage was disinfected—322 pieces. Two vessels, one via Amoy and an army transport for Manila, were sent via Mariveles for disinfection. The U. S. S. *Rainbow* was granted bill of health without inspection upon request of the medical officer. Two cases each of enteric fever and smallpox were the only communicable diseases reported for the week.

##### *Immigrants for Honolulu and San Francisco recommended for rejection.*

Number of immigrants per steamship *China* for Honolulu recommended, January 18, 1904, for rejection, 4; for San Francisco, 13.

##### *Report from Shanghai—Increased mortality from smallpox and tuberculosis.*

Acting Assistant Surgeon Ransom reports, January 19, as follows: During the week ended January 16, 1904, two supplemental bills of health were issued. There were inspected 48 crew, 3 cabin, and 5 steerage passengers. Two immigration inspections were made with no rejections.

The report of the municipal health officer shows for the week: Smallpox 1 case and 20 deaths, enteric fever 2 cases, tuberculosis 28 deaths. Total mortality, 2 foreigners and 133 natives. The marked increase in the mortality from tuberculosis is probably the result of the severe cold and damp weather which has been experienced here for the last ten days or so. The mortality from smallpox is the highest yet this year. The number, however, is not unusual for Shanghai at this season.

There were no reports of quarantinable disease from any of the outports.